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Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
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Agenda item 6
Integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice

Colombia and Philippines: revised draft resolution

Strengthening measures against trafficking in persons

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which constitutes an offence and a serious threat to human dignity, the physical integrity of persons, human rights and development, and which requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent it, to prosecute and punish traffickers and to protect the victims, as well as a criminal justice response commensurate with the serious nature of the offence,

Welcoming the ratification of or accession to, by 173 parties, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[1] which provides an effective global legal framework to promote international cooperation against trafficking in persons,

Reiterating the adoption, by the General Assembly, of resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, containing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and targets 5.2, 8.7 and 16.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which reaffirm the commitment of Member States to taking immediate and effective measures to, inter alia, eradicate forced labour and end modern slavery and trafficking in persons,

Recognizing the need to continue to foster a global partnership against trafficking in persons and the need to continue to work towards an enhanced, comprehensive and coordinated approach to prevent and combat trafficking and to protect and assist victims of trafficking in persons through the appropriate national, regional and international mechanisms,

Recognizing also the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on best practices, of Governments and intergovernmental and

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

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non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Drawing attention to the need to address the new challenges generated by the rapid development and potential for criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies that are being used to facilitate trafficking in persons, including for the purpose of exploiting women and children, and to recruit and harbour victims, while also taking into account that information and communications technologies can assist law enforcement and criminal justice authorities in preventing and combating trafficking in persons,

Seriously concerned that an increasing number of women and girls are being subjected to trafficking in persons, including to developed countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and recognizing that trafficking in persons disproportionately affects women and girls and that men and boys are also victims of it, including for sexual exploitation,

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[2] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[1] taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and urges States parties to those instruments to consider developing national strategies to implement them effectively;

2. *Encourages* Member States to consider developing partnerships and networks that bring together national authorities, businesses, the media, academia, civil society organizations, survivors and other social actors to foster cooperation in the design and implementation of policies and programmes to prevent and eliminate trafficking in persons, including by facilitating the sharing of information, experiences and lessons learned, and acknowledging the significant impact of trafficking in persons on the victims' immediate family members, especially children, in accordance with the applicable domestic and international law, and to work to address their needs as far as possible;

3. *Also encourages* Member States, in accordance with their domestic laws, to cooperate with businesses to identify and address trafficking-related risks in their supply chains for goods and services and to take efforts to prevent and help combat trafficking in persons, including for the purposes of all forms of exploitation as defined in the Trafficking in Persons Protocol;

4. *Further encourages* Member States to continue to promote ongoing, comprehensive training, among other measures, for officials and staff in the immigration, health, foreign affairs, law enforcement, consular, security, labour inspection and social services sectors and others who may come in contact with populations at risk of trafficking in persons, as referenced in the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[3] among others, on the different characteristics of trafficking in persons in all its forms in order to enhance their skills in countering trafficking in persons, including preventing, detecting, investigating and prosecuting trafficking in persons cases, and in providing comprehensive, timely and appropriate care for victims of trafficking in persons, including emotionally traumatized victims, taking into consideration the specifics of each population group and the particular vulnerabilities of each, in accordance with applicable domestic and international laws;

5. *Encourages* Member States to consider developing programmes and continuing to build on existing ones, in accordance with domestic law, that include input from the private sector, civil society and other social actors, including survivors

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[3] General Assembly resolution 72/1.

of the crime of trafficking in persons, with a view to helping victims of this crime to reintegrate into society and find employment and educational opportunities, and, in this regard, invites the private sector to contribute to the development of initiatives with Governments to protect and support victims of trafficking and those who are vulnerable to exploitation, including in the context of corporate social responsibility;

6. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their mandates, to continue their activities to support the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[4] including within the framework of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, and, to this end, to incorporate aspects of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[5] relevant to preventing and combating trafficking in persons and consider how to coordinate future activities and avoid duplication of effort;

7. *Invites* Member States to address the social, economic, cultural, political and other factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking in persons;

8. *Also invites* Member States to strengthen or continue to strengthen their coordination and cooperation at the domestic and international levels to combat crimes that in some cases may be connected to trafficking in persons, including terrorism, money-laundering, corruption, the smuggling of migrants, drug trafficking, the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies and other forms of organized crime;

9. *Calls upon* Member States, where applicable and consistent with their domestic law, to investigate, prosecute and punish those who facilitate, engage in or profit from trafficking in persons, to prevent the provision of safe havens to those found responsible for these crimes and to implement anti-money-laundering measures to identify and confiscate proceeds of these crimes, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue providing technical assistance to requesting Member States in this regard;

10. *Encourages* Member States to consider or continue the development of bilateral, regional and multilateral groups or networks of national authorities to combat trafficking in persons and to consider measures to facilitate inter-institutional cooperation to fight and eradicate this crime and to assist and protect trafficking victims, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue providing technical assistance to requesting Member States in this regard;

11. *Stresses* the need for Member States to consider the rights of victims of trafficking in persons, consistent with their domestic law, and to consider including, through victim-centred and trauma-informed measures, to encourage the cooperation of victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings against offenders, specific programmes to protect the privacy and identity of victims and witnesses, ensure their safety before, during and after criminal proceedings and protect their immediate family, as appropriate, from retaliation, and also stresses the importance of proactive investigations and of developing evidence-based investigation techniques that are not solely dependent on victim testimony;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to inform the Commission, at its twenty-eighth session, within existing reporting obligations, about the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

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[4] General Assembly resolution 64/293.

[5] General Assembly resolution 70/1.